

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Sighting of Wedge-tailed Eagles at Guildford—On March 3, 1973 a pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles, *Aquila audax*, were sighted roosting on a large Flooded Gum, *Eucalyptus rudis*, in the Helena River near the Woodbridge Hotel at East Street, Guildford.

Again on March 11, 1973 a pair of the birds were seen gliding over the Western edge of the Dalgety Holding paddocks, Bushmead Road, South Guildford. It was assumed that they were the same pair seen on March 3—both birds were under constant "attack" by hordes of crows.

—PETER McMILLAN, Guildford Grammar School.

The Satin Flycatcher—A new record for Western Australia.—An immature female Satin Flycatcher (*Myiagra cyauoleuca*) was collected near Twilight Cove (26 km south of Cocklebidy, W.A.) at 0930 hours on 12 April, 1973. The bird was feeding in myoporum scrub along the base of cliffs. Its plumage and measurements (see Table 1) were similar to specimens of juvenile Satin Flycatchers collected on King Island in Bass Strait. This species normally occurs in eastern Australia from Cape York to Tasmania but has been recorded as a vagrant once in South Australia (at Langhorne Creek, south-east of Adelaide) on 29 March, 1964 (Condon, *S.A. Orn.*, 24, 1965: 73) and once in New Zealand on 12 June, 1963 (Blackburn, *Notornis*, 10, 1963: 262).

I would like to thank Mr Ian Mason (CSIRO Division of Wildlife Research, Darwin) for preparing the skin, Mr R. H. Green (Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston) for lending reference specimens and Dr Glen Storr (W.A. Museum, Perth) for checking the identification.

Table 1.—Dimensions of immature Satin Flycatchers (mm)

| Museum No. | Sex | Where collected | Wing | Tail | Total bill | Exposed bill |
|------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|------------|--------------|
| A 12648 | ♀ | Twilight Cove | 84.5 | 83.0 | 18.0 | 11.0 |
| 1968/2/104 | ♀ | King I. | 82.0 | 79.0 | 18.0 | 12.0 |
| 1968/2/148 | ♂ | King I. | 87.0 | 83.5 | 20.0 | 13.0 |

—M. G. BROOKER, Gooseberry Hill.

Distraction Display of *Peltohyas*—Macleay (*Emu*, 93, 1973: 61-70) states that "No writings on *Peltohyas* mention any kind of distraction behaviour by adult birds with eggs".

Australian Dotterels (*Peltohyas australis*) are not uncommon at Gibb Rock, 290 km E by S of Perth, where the following observations were made.

While ploughing on 21 February 1970, my son, Malcolm, observed an Australian Dotterel performing a distraction display. He located a nest containing one egg. Though he ploughed round it, later observation indicated that from that time the nest was deserted. We thought it likely that the egg represented an incomplete clutch, but it is possible that it was one which had failed to hatch and that chicks were in the vicinity. No such objection seems to apply to the following observations.

On May 11, 1973, my son, while ploughing a stubble paddock, disturbed a bird from a nest containing three eggs. The bird performed a distraction display. The following day we inspected the nest together, finding two eggs and one newly-hatched chick. The adults were present, but on this occasion there was no display.

Again on 4 June 1973 a similar incident occurred. The bird left the nest and performed a distraction display. In this instance the eggs were two-thirds covered with soil when first seen, but were uncovered when